

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (canceled)
2. (currently amended) The oligomeric compound of claim ~~[[1]]~~ 102 having at least one portion that is complementary to and capable of hybridizing to a selected nucleic acid target.
3. (currently amended) The oligomeric compound of claim ~~[[1]]~~ 102 wherein said plurality of nucleosides further includes at least one nucleoside of a third type (T), said third type of nucleoside including a 2'-substituent group ~~and wherein said 2'-substituent group of said third type nucleoside that~~ is different from the 2'-substituent group of either of said first and said second type of nucleosides.
4. (currently amended) The oligomeric compound of claim ~~[[1]]~~ 102 wherein each of the 2'-substituent groups of said other of said first ~~type of nucleosides~~ and said second ~~[[type]] types of~~ nucleosides ~~are, independently, is~~ -F, -O-CH₂CH₂-O-CH₃, -OC₁-C₁₂ alkyl, -O-CH₂-CH₂-CH₂-NH₂, -O-(CH₂)₂-O-N(R₁)₂, -O-CH₂C(=O)-N(R₁)₂, -O-(CH₂)₂-O-(CH₂)₂-N(R₁)₂, -O-CH₂-CH₂-CH₂-NHR₁, -N₃, -O-CH₂-CH=CH₂, -NHCOR₁, -NH₂, -NHR₁, -N(R₁)₂, -SH, -SR₁, -N(H)OH, -N(H)OR₁, -N(R₁)OH, -N(R₁)OR₁ or -O-CH₂-N(H)-C(=NR₁)[N(R₁)₂]; and
wherein each R₁ is, independently, H, ~~C₁-C₁₂ alkyl~~, a protecting group or substituted or unsubstituted C₁-C₁₂ alkyl, C₂-C₁₂ alkenyl, or C₂-C₁₂ alkynyl wherein the substituent groups are selected from halogen, hydroxyl, amino, azido, cyano, haloalkyl, alkenyl, alkoxy, thioalkoxy, haloalkoxy or aryl; ~~and~~
~~wherein said oligomeric compound includes said FSP motif.~~
5. (currently amended) The oligomeric compound of claim ~~[[1]]~~ 102 wherein each of the 2'-substituent groups of said other of said first ~~type of nucleosides~~ and said second ~~[[type]] types of~~ nucleosides ~~are, independently, is~~ -F, -O-CH₃, -O-CH₂CH₂-O-CH₃, -O-CH₂-

CH=CH₂, N₃, NH₂, NHOH, -O-(CH₂)₂-O-N(R₁)₂, -O-CH₂C(O)-N(R₁)₂, -O-CH₂-CH₂-CH₂-NH₂, -O-(CH₂)₂-O-(CH₂)₂-N(R₁)₂ or -O-CH₂-N(H)-C(=NR₁)[N(R₁)₂]; and

wherein each R₁ is, independently, H, C₄-C₁₂-alkyl, a protecting group or substituted or unsubstituted C₁-C₁₂ alkyl, C₂-C₁₂ alkenyl, or C₂-C₁₂ alkynyl wherein the substituent groups are selected from halogen, hydroxyl, amino, azido, cyano, haloalkyl, alkenyl, alkoxy, thioalkoxy, haloalkoxy or aryl; and

~~wherein said oligomeric compound includes said FSF motif.~~

6. (currently amended) The oligomeric compound of claim [[1]] 102 wherein each of the 2'-substituent groups of said other of said first ~~type of nucleosides~~ and said second [[type]] types of nucleosides ~~are, independently,~~ is -F, -O-CH₂CH₂-O-CH₃, -O-CH₃, -O-CH₂-CH=CH₂ or -O-CH₂-CH-CH₂-NH(R_j) where R_j is H or C₁-C₁₀ alkyl.

7. (currently amended) The oligomeric compound of claim [[1]] 102 wherein each of the 2'-substituent groups of said other of said first ~~type of nucleosides~~ and said second [[type]] types of nucleosides ~~are, independently,~~ is -F, -O-CH₃ or -O-CH₂CH₂-O-CH₃.

8-10 (canceled)

11. (currently amended) The oligomeric compound of claim [[1]] 102 wherein each of said linked nucleosides is linked by a phosphodiester internucleoside linking group.

12. (currently amended) The oligomeric compound of claim [[1]] 102 wherein each of said linked nucleosides is linked by a phosphorothioate internucleoside linking group.

13. (currently amended) The oligomeric compound of claim [[1]] 102 wherein each of said linked nucleosides is, independently, linked by a phosphodiester or a phosphorothioate internucleoside linking group.

14. (currently amended) The oligomeric compound of claim [[1]] 102 wherein each of said linked nucleosides is independently linked by an internucleoside linking group wherein

said internucleoside linking groups are independently selected from the group consisting of phosphodiester, phosphorothioate, chiral phosphorothioate, phosphorodithioate, phosphotriester, aminoalkylphosphotriester, methyl phosphonate, alkyl phosphonate, 5'-alkylene phosphonate, chiral phosphonate, phosphinate, phosphoramidate, 3'-amino phosphoramidate, aminoalkylphosphoramidate, thionophosphoramidate, thionoalkylphosphonate, thionoalkylphosphotriester, selenophosphate and boranophosphate. ~~phosphodiester and phosphorothioate.~~

15-27. (canceled)

28. (currently amended) The oligomeric compound of claim ~~[[1]]~~ 102 having from about 18 to about 30 ~~nucleotides~~ nucleosides.

29. (currently amended) The oligomeric compound of claim ~~[[1]]~~ 102 having from about 21 to about 24 ~~nucleotides~~ nucleosides.

30. (currently amended) The oligomeric compound of claim ~~[[1]]~~ 102 further comprising at least one conjugate group.

31. (currently amended) The oligomeric compound of claim ~~[[1]]~~ 102 further comprising at least one terminal cap moiety.

32. (original) The oligomeric compound of claim 31 wherein said terminal cap moiety is attached to one or both of the 3'-terminal and 5'-terminal ends of said oligomeric compound.

33. (original) The oligomeric compound of claim 32 wherein said terminal cap moiety is an inverted deoxy abasic moiety.

34. (currently amended) A composition comprising a first oligomeric compound and a second oligomeric compound, wherein:

at least a portion of said first oligomeric compound is capable of hybridizing with at least a portion of said second oligomeric compound;

at least a portion of said first oligomeric compound is complementary to and capable of hybridizing to a selected nucleic acid target; and

~~at least one of said first and said second oligomeric compounds comprises at least nucleosides of a first type (F) and nucleosides of a second type (S);~~

~~said first and said second types of nucleosides differing in at least one aspect from one another in that they have different 2'-substituent groups; and~~

~~when said 2'-substituent groups of said first and said second types of nucleosides are other than H or OH then at least one of said first and said second oligomeric compounds includes at least two nucleosides of said first type and at least one nucleoside of said second type wherein said nucleosides of said first type and said nucleosides of said second type are located with respect to one another such that said first or second oligomeric compound includes at least one FSF motif; or~~

~~when the 2'-substituent group of one of said first or said second type of nucleoside is H or OH then at least one of said first and said second oligomeric compounds includes at least three nucleosides of said first type and at least three nucleosides of said second type and said nucleosides of said first type and said nucleosides of said second type are located with respect to one another such that at least one of said first and said second oligomeric compounds includes at least one FSFSFS motif.~~

wherein at least one of said first and second oligomeric compounds is an oligomeric compound of claim 102.

35-36. (canceled)

37. (original) The composition of claim 34 wherein at least one of said first and said second oligomeric compounds comprise only nucleosides of said first type and said second type and wherein said nucleosides of said first and said second types are alternating throughout the entire sequence of said oligomeric compound.

38. (original) The composition of claim 37 wherein both of said first and said second oligomeric compounds comprise only nucleosides of said first type and said second type and wherein said nucleosides of said first and said second types are alternating throughout the entire sequence of both of said oligomeric compounds.

39-45. (canceled)

46. (currently amended) The ~~composition~~ oligomeric compound of claim ~~[[34]]~~ 102 wherein each of the 2'-substituent groups of said other of said first type of nucleosides and said second type of nucleosides ~~[[are]] is independently selected as -F or -O-CH₃.~~

47-48 (canceled)

49. (original) The composition of claim 34 wherein said first type of nucleosides are 2'-H nucleosides.

50. (original) The composition of claim 34 wherein said second type of nucleosides are 2'-fluoro nucleosides.

51. (original) The composition of claim 34 wherein said second type of nucleosides are 2'-O-CH₃ nucleosides.

52. (canceled)

53. (original) The composition of claim 34 wherein said first oligomeric compound further comprises a 5'-phosphate group.

54. (original) The composition of claim 34 wherein said second oligomeric compound further comprises a 5'-phosphate group.

55. (original) The composition of claim 34 wherein each of said first and said second oligomeric compounds independently, comprise a 5'-phosphate group.

56. (original) The composition of claim 34 wherein said first oligomeric compound comprises a 3'-terminal OH group.

57. (original) The composition of claim 34 wherein the nucleosides of each of said first and said second oligomeric compounds are linked by phosphodiester internucleoside linking groups.

58. (original) The composition of claim 34 wherein the nucleosides of each of said first and said second oligomeric compounds are linked by phosphorothioate internucleoside linking groups.

59. (original) The composition of claim 34 wherein the nucleosides of one said first and said second oligomeric compound are linked by phosphorothioate internucleoside linking groups and the nucleosides of the other of said first and said second oligomeric compound are linked by phosphodiester internucleoside linking groups.

60. (original) The composition of claim 34 wherein the nucleosides of said first oligomeric compound are linked by phosphorothioate internucleoside linking groups and the nucleosides of said second oligomeric compound are linked by phosphodiester internucleoside linking groups.

61. (original) The composition of claim 34 wherein each of the nucleosides of said first and said second oligomeric compound are independently linked by phosphorothioate or phosphodiester internucleoside linking groups.

62. (original) The composition of claim 34 wherein each of the nucleosides of said first and said second oligomeric compound are independently linked by an internucleoside linking group selected from the group consisting of phosphodiester, phosphorothioate, chiral

phosphorothioate, phosphorodithioate, phosphotriester, aminoalkylphosphotriester, methyl phosphonate, alkyl phosphonate, 5'-alkylene phosphonate, chiral phosphonate, phosphinate, phosphoramidate, 3'-amino phosphoramidate, aminoalkylphosphoramidate, thionophosphoramidate, thionoalkylphosphonate, thionoalkylphosphotriester, selenophosphate and boranophosphate.

63. (currently amended) The composition of claim 34 wherein each of said first and said second oligomeric compounds comprise only said first and said second type of nucleosides and wherein said first and said second type of nucleosides are alternating in both of said first and said second oligomeric compounds.

64. (currently amended) The composition of claim 63 wherein said first oligomeric compound has said first type of nucleosides starting at its 5'-terminus and wherein the first type of nucleosides of said first and said second oligomeric compounds align with each other when the first and second oligomeric compounds are hybridized.

65. (currently amended) The composition of claim 63 wherein said first type of nucleosides comprise 2'-F or 2'-O-CH₃ groups.

66. (canceled)

67. (currently amended) The composition of claim 63 wherein said first oligomeric compound has said first type of nucleosides starting at its 5'-terminus wherein said first type of nucleosides of said first oligomeric compound and said second type of nucleosides of said second oligomeric compound align with each other when said first and said second oligomeric compounds are hybridized.

68. (currently amended) The composition of claim ~~[[66]]~~ 67 wherein said first type of nucleosides comprise 2'-F or 2'-O-CH₃ groups.

69-71. (canceled)

72. (original) The composition of claim 34 further comprising at least one conjugate group.

73. (canceled)

74. (original) The composition of claim 34 wherein at least one of said first and said second oligomeric compounds further comprises at least one terminal cap moiety attached at the 3'-end, the 5'-end or both the 3'-end and the 5'-end.

75. (original) The composition of claim 74 wherein said terminal cap moiety is an inverted deoxy abasic moiety.

76. (original) The composition of claim 74 wherein one of said first and second oligomeric compounds is a sense strand and wherein said sense strand comprises a terminal cap moiety at one or both of the 3'-terminal and the 5'-terminal ends.

77. (original) The composition of claim 76 wherein said terminal cap moiety is an inverted deoxy abasic moiety.

78. (original) The composition of claim 34 wherein said first and said second oligomeric compounds are a complementary pair of siRNA oligonucleotides.

79-91. (canceled)

92. (currently amended) The composition of claim 34 wherein each of said first and second oligomeric compounds has from about 10 to about 40 ~~nucleotides~~ nucleosides.

93. (currently amended) The composition of claim 34 wherein each of said first and second oligomeric compounds has from about 18 to about 30 ~~nucleotides~~ nucleosides.

94. (currently amended) The composition of claim 34 wherein each of said first and second oligomeric compounds has from about 21 to about 24 ~~nucleotides~~ nucleosides.

95. (original) The composition of claim 34 wherein said first oligomeric compound is an antisense oligonucleotide.

96. (original) The composition of claim 34 wherein said second oligomeric compound is a sense oligonucleotide.

97-99. (canceled)

100. (original) A method of inhibiting gene expression comprising contacting one or more cells, a tissue or an animal with a composition of claim 34.

101. (original) A method of inhibiting gene expression comprising contacting one or more cells, a tissue or an animal with an oligomeric compound of claim 1.

102. (new) An oligomeric compound comprising:

a sequence of from about 10 to about 40 linked nucleosides comprising a $F(SF)_n(S)_{mn}$ motif;

wherein F is a first type of nucleoside and S is a second type of nucleoside differing in at least their 2'-substituent groups;

the 2'-substituent group of one of said first and said second types of nucleosides is H and the 2'-substituent group of the other of said first and said second types of nucleosides is other than H and OH;

n is from 2 to about 20 and mn is 0 or 1; and

wherein said motif comprises at least three nucleosides of said first type and at least three nucleosides of said second type.

103. (new) The oligomeric compound of claim 102 comprising said motif for the entire sequence of said oligomeric compound.